

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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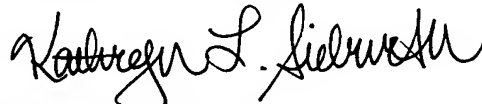
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. A copy of each of the listed documents is also enclosed. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as an admission that any particular listed reference is effective prior art or discloses or renders obvious any aspect of the claimed invention.

This statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4), before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Authorization is hereby granted to charge any fees that may be required by this paper under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account 19-2570.

Respectfully submitted,



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